

HARTFORD – **Congressman John Larson (CT-01)** will join **Governor Dannel Malloy** and leadership from Hartford Hospital, Aetna and retiree advocates Friday in a celebration to mark the 45th anniversary of the first Medicare payment.

Medicare was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on July 30, 1965. The first Medicare benefit payment was issued by The Aetna Insurance Company to Hartford Hospital on July 9, 1966.

Representing Hartford Hospital and Aetna at the event will be **Hartford Hospital's newly promoted CEO Jeffrey Flaks** and

President of Aetna Medicare Gary Thomas

. Additionally,

Kevin Lynch

of the Connecticut chapter of the Alliance for Retired Americans will be in attendance to discuss the importance of Medicare to the state's seniors.

The event is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

WHO: Congressman John Larson (CT-01)

Governor Dannel Malloy

Jeffrey Flaks – Hartford Hospital

Gary Thomas – Aetna

Kevin Lynch – Alliance for Retired Americans

WHAT: Larson, Malloy and healthcare leaders to hold celebration of the 45th Anniversary First Medicare Payment

WHERE: Hartford Hospital (In front of the main entrance)

80 Seymour Street

Hartford, CT 06106

WHEN: Friday, July 29, 2011 – 11:45 a.m.